



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/826,774	04/16/2004	Wayne Rollins Hansen	14374.111	1290
22913	7590	08/25/2006	EXAMINER	
WORKMAN NYDEGGER (F/K/A WORKMAN NYDEGGER & SEELEY) 60 EAST SOUTH TEMPLE 1000 EAGLE GATE TOWER SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84111			PRASAD, CHANDRIKA	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2839	

DATE MAILED: 08/25/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/826,774	HANSEN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Chandrika Prasad	2839	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 August 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 14-17 and 28-37 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7, 9-13, 18-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 11, 13, 18, 21 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bloch (3271725).

Block (Figures 1—2) shows an electrical cable assembly 16 having a cable 20 with a plurality of conductors 21 attached to a metal fitting 15,19 of an elbow configuration, and a terminal with a resilient non-electrically conductive terminal element 17 with a first end attached to the fitting and a second end with a plurality of electrical contacts 18 in electrical communication with conductors of the cable wherein a joint defined by the terminal and the fitting is substantially disposed within a receptacle 1. The cable assembly is attached to a receptacle by a connector 6 and an annular circular groove is defined at the proximate the joint. The metal fitting provides a means to control the diametric expansion of the terminal element.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2, 9 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bloch (3271725) in view of Dechelette (4737122).

Bloch shows all the features of these claims except the terminal element being conical. Such a feature is well known in the art of electrical connectors. Dechelette shows such a feature. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the instant invention to provide such a feature as shown by Dechelette because such a modification would have involved a mere change in the shape of a component which is recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art.

5. Claims 3, 10 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bloch (3271725).

Bloch discloses all the features of these claims except the material of the terminal element being rubber, nylon, silicon or polytetrafluoroethylene. Such materials are well known and widely used in the art of electrical connectors. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the instant invention to make the terminal element of one of these materials, since it has been held to be within the general skill of a worker in the art to select a known material on the basis of its suitability for the intended use. In re Leshin, 125 USPQ 416..

6. Claims 5, 12 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bloch (3271725).

Bloch discloses all the features of these claims except an additional terminal attached to the cable. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the instant invention to provide a plurality of terminals because this would require a

mere duplication of essential parts, which involve only routine skill in the art. *St. Regis Co. vs. Bemis co.*, 193 USPQ 8.

7. Claims 24-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bloch (3271725) in view of Tang (20030087553).

Bloch discloses all the features of these claims except a conductive element between the electrical contacts and the conductors of the cable. Such a feature is well known in the art of electrical connectors. Tang shows such a feature (a ferrule 3 with conductive elements 33, 35 between a cable conductor and electrical contacts. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the instant invention to provide such a feature as shown by Tang to connect electrical conductors of a cable to electrical contacts.

Response to Arguments

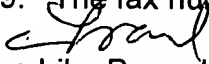
8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Contact Information

9. Any correspondence to this action may be mailed to:

**Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chandrika Prasad whose telephone number is (571) 272-2099. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor can be reached at (571) 272-2800 ext 39. The fax number is (703) 872-9306.


Chandrika Prasad
Primary examiner
August 22, 2006